

From: Robert Edwards
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/23/02 6:32pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

To whom it may concern:

I'm writing to protest the proposed settlement of the United States vs. Microsoft antitrust lawsuit. It is my understanding that by Section III(J)(2), not-for-profit organizations are not considered in the settlement, as they are not considered businesses by Microsoft's criteria. But as I'm sure you are aware, internal Microsoft documents indicate that Microsoft feels that some of its bigger threats come from open-source projects such as GNU/Linux and SAMBA. To allow Microsoft to shut out projects such as these effectively limits Microsoft's competition and increase its market dominance, which clearly flies in the face of the goals of the antitrust lawsuit. Furthermore, many for-profit organizations which I am sure Microsoft would consider businesses, such as Red Hat, are value-added resellers of what are at root open-source projects. Section III(J)(2) would unduly harm these businesses, further limiting Microsoft's competition.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter, and I hope that you find it within yourself to reject Microsoft's self-serving settlement proposal.

Sincerely,
Robert Edwards